



# ***Occupations In Demand***

## **Mississippi**

2005

Mississippi Department of Employment Security  
Labor Market Information

***“Increasing Employment In Mississippi”***



MDES is an Equal Opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities

# **Table of Contents**

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Explanation of Terms</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>General Trends</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Summary of Occupational Sectors</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>High Demand Occupations</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Top 100 Occupations - Annual Demand</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Top 100 Occupations - Overall Wages</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Top 100 Occupations - Starting Wages</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>About Job Zones</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Top 20 Occupations by Job Zone</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Determining the “Hottest” Occupations</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>The 50 “Hottest” Jobs</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Exploring Occupations Further</b>	<b>24</b>

# Introduction

Each year, in conjunction with the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics the Labor Market Information Department, a unit of the Mississippi Department of Employment Security, conducts an occupational wage survey of businesses across the state. The data from that survey are then input into special software which produces long term projections of occupational needs for various areas of the state. Complete results of this survey are published at our agency website (cited throughout this publication). One significant output of this process is a tabulation of annual demand for workers by specific occupation. ***Occupations in Demand*** takes a look at this annual demand, which includes both new and replacement workers, in an attempt to highlight those occupations with the highest need for workers. Various tables show selected occupations sorted by annual need, by average wages paid, and by job zone. Job zones are an indication of how much experience, education or training are needed to qualify for that particular occupation. The final table in the series highlights those jobs which LMI staff view as the “hottest” occupations across the state. These were ascertained by a combination of annual demand and wages paid, a process explained in further detail within that section. It is hoped that the data contained in this publication will be of tremendous value for job seekers, training providers, public officials and economic developers across Mississippi. Should you require further information or need assistance in interpreting the information found within, please do not hesitate to contact the LMI Department for guidance.

**E-mail: [LMI-Info@mdes.ms.gov](mailto:LMI-Info@mdes.ms.gov)**

**Phone: 601-321-6249**

Please visit our website at  
**<http://mdes.ms.gov>**

# **Explanation of Terms**

## **SOC Code**

Standard Occupational Classification code, an occupational classification system devised by the U.S. Department of Labor with input from the states. It is the federal standard, and should be used by all state and federal agencies dealing with occupational data.

## **Occupational Title**

The standard title assigned to a specific occupation under SOC.

## **Annual Demand**

The projected number of workers needed on an annual basis for the years 2000 through 2010, as determined by the occupational projections data. It includes both new workers and replacements for those who die, retire, or change occupations.

## **Average Overall Wage**

An estimate of average hourly or annual earnings for all workers within a specific occupation regardless of experience level. This should be viewed as an estimate of potential earnings rather than as an entry level wage for the inexperienced worker. Certain salaried occupations, such as teachers, are generally paid a monthly or annual salary and may not show an hourly wage estimate.

## **Average Starting Wage**

An estimate of average hourly or annual earnings for the new or inexperienced worker within a specific occupation. These are wages which a person just starting out in an occupation could reasonably expect to earn. Certain salaried occupations may not show an hourly wage estimate.

## **Job Zone**

These indicate the most common level of education, training, and/or experience required to perform the job and are derived from the O\*Net system developed by the U.S. Department of Labor. The higher the number, the more education, training or other preparation is required.

## General Trends

As shown in the accompanying table, it is estimated that roughly 52,340 new and replacement workers will be needed on an annual basis over the next several years. The distribution of this demand across the various occupational sectors is somewhat irregular, with a handful of sectors dominating the overall needs. Anticipated earnings across the various job groups are also quite varied and worthy of further analysis. Among the 22 occupational clusters, the largest annual demands should be found in the areas of **Sales & Related** and **Office & Administrative Support**. However, in both cases the expected wages for jobs in those sectors will generally be below average. The fewest number of new and replacement workers can be expected in **Legal** occupations, but those should have the second highest earnings potential. **Management** occupations may perhaps be considered the “hottest” sector, with above average demand and mean annual earnings of \$60,520 to lead all categories. Other occupational clusters with above average demand for workers that also have above average wage potential include **Education, Training & Library**, **Healthcare Practitioners & Technical**, and **Installation, Maintenance & Repair** occupations. Several other sectors with high demand for workers show below average wage rates. Conversely, some of the sectors with the least need for workers are listed among the highest paying sectors. From this it can be deduced that there should be ample opportunity for employment for incoming workers, provided that wages are not a major concern. However, competition for those which pay the best could turn out to be quite stiff.

# Summary of Occupational Sectors

SOC Code	Occupational Sector	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage	
			Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual
	<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>52,335</b>	<b>\$6.84</b>	<b>\$14,236</b>	<b>\$13.35</b>	<b>\$27,765</b>
11-0000	Management Occupations	2,880	\$13.54	\$28,150	\$29.09	\$60,520
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	1,165	\$12.28	\$25,550	\$20.86	\$43,380
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	435	\$11.78	\$24,490	\$20.81	\$43,290
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	640	\$14.18	\$29,500	\$23.68	\$49,260
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	345	\$11.80	\$24,550	\$21.06	\$43,790
21-0000	Community and Social Services Occupations	410	\$9.45	\$19,650	\$14.63	\$30,420
23-0000	Legal Occupations	360	\$11.12	\$23,130	\$25.86	\$53,790
25-0000	Education, Training, and Library Occupations	3,350	\$7.91	\$16,450	\$15.14	\$31,490
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	395	\$7.95	\$16,540	\$14.40	\$29,960
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	3,210	\$11.07	\$23,020	\$21.34	\$44,390
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	1,335	\$6.44	\$13,390	\$8.70	\$18,100
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	1,625	\$7.06	\$14,690	\$11.59	\$24,100
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	4,895	\$5.98	\$12,440	\$7.07	\$14,700
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	1,690	\$6.07	\$12,620	\$8.29	\$17,240
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	1,720	\$6.00	\$12,490	\$8.71	\$18,120
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	6,845	\$6.09	\$12,660	\$10.76	\$22,390
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	6,230	\$7.50	\$15,600	\$11.50	\$23,930
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	1,030	\$6.48	\$13,470	\$10.66	\$22,170
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	2,660	\$8.72	\$18,130	\$13.02	\$27,090
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	2,370	\$8.93	\$18,560	\$14.72	\$30,610
51-0000	Production Occupations	5,030	\$7.69	\$16,000	\$11.97	\$24,910
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	3,715	\$6.78	\$14,100	\$11.32	\$23,540

**NOTE: Figures in RED are above average**

# High Demand Occupations

Looking at the occupations most in demand over the next decade, it is readily apparent that the picture is somewhat upside down. When education, training and wages are factored into the equation, one finds that the jobs which will require the most new and replacement workers generally pay below average wages and require little or no advanced preparation. There are some notable exceptions to this general tendency, such as **Registered Nurses** and **General & Operations Managers**. Both of these require substantial education or experience and pay well above the statewide average. Among the top ten demand occupations, the only other one which promises above average pay is **Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor Trailer**. Less than a third of the top one hundred occupations in demand reported potential earnings above the statewide average of \$27,310 per year. Analysis of the Job Zone data reveals that almost sixty percent of the top 100 occupations will require little or no formal training (Job Zones 1 & 2). Roughly one out of five will require moderate to long term preparation (Job Zones 3 & 4). Only three of the top 100 occupations fall into the Job Zone 5 category which involves extensive education and/or experience. A more detailed look at expectations within each job zone follows in a later section.

## Top 100 Occupations - Annual Demand

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage		Job Zone
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual	
1	41-2011	Cashiers	2,565	\$6.04	\$12,560	\$7.04	\$14,640	1
2	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,210	\$6.13	\$12,750	\$9.55	\$19,860	2
3	29-1111	Registered Nurses	1,360	<b>\$16.18</b>	<b>\$33,660</b>	<b>\$21.92</b>	<b>\$45,590</b>	4
4	35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,005	\$5.97	\$12,410	\$6.39	\$13,290	1
5	53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	905	\$6.45	\$13,420	\$9.30	\$19,340	1
6	35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	820	\$5.98	\$12,440	\$6.66	\$13,860	1
7	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	770	<b>\$9.73</b>	<b>\$20,240</b>	<b>\$14.85</b>	<b>\$30,900</b>	2
8	11-1021	General and Operations Managers	765	<b>\$15.05</b>	<b>\$31,300</b>	<b>\$31.88</b>	<b>\$66,310</b>	4
9	35-2021	Food Preparation Workers	720	\$5.96	\$12,400	\$6.59	\$13,700	1
10	31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	685	\$6.16	\$12,820	\$7.72	\$16,060	2
11	43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	665	\$6.23	\$12,960	\$9.00	\$18,710	2
12	37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	655	\$6.05	\$12,580	\$7.88	\$16,390	1
13	41-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	590	<b>\$8.66</b>	<b>\$18,020</b>	<b>\$13.48</b>	<b>\$28,030</b>	2
14	25-9041	Teacher Assistants	560	\$5.99	\$12,450	\$6.91	\$14,380	3
15	51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	540	\$6.65	\$13,820	\$8.21	\$17,080	1
16	45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	535	\$5.92	\$12,320	\$6.71	\$13,950	1
17	49-9042	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	530	<b>\$8.08</b>	<b>\$16,810</b>	\$12.91	\$26,840	3
18	25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	520	<b>\$11.84</b>	<b>\$24,620</b>	<b>\$16.44</b>	<b>\$34,200</b>	4
19	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	515	<b>\$6.87</b>	<b>\$14,290</b>	\$9.67	\$20,120	2
20	37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	505	\$6.04	\$12,570	\$7.00	\$14,570	1
21	41-4012	Sales Reps, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Not Tech. & Scientific Products	505	<b>\$11.52</b>	<b>\$23,960</b>	<b>\$19.26</b>	<b>\$40,060</b>	2
22	33-9032	Security Guards	475	\$6.08	\$12,650	\$8.11	\$16,880	1
23	25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	470	<b>\$12.48</b>	<b>\$25,960</b>	<b>\$16.92</b>	<b>\$35,200</b>	4
24	43-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Office and Administrative Support Workers	455	<b>\$10.84</b>	<b>\$22,540</b>	<b>\$16.78</b>	<b>\$34,900</b>	3
25	43-6014	Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	445	<b>\$7.21</b>	<b>\$14,990</b>	\$10.31	\$21,450	2
26	43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	440	<b>\$8.58</b>	<b>\$17,850</b>	\$12.03	\$25,030	3
27	43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	435	\$6.83	\$14,200	\$8.97	\$18,650	2
28	51-2092	Team Assemblers	430	<b>\$7.48</b>	<b>\$15,550</b>	\$10.89	\$22,660	1
29	39-9011	Child Care Workers	410	\$6.01	\$12,510	\$6.88	\$14,320	1
30	29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	395	<b>\$9.95</b>	<b>\$20,700</b>	\$12.54	\$26,070	3
31	47-2031	Carpenters	395	<b>\$9.06</b>	<b>\$18,840</b>	\$12.67	\$26,350	3
32	35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food	365	\$5.93	\$12,340	\$6.39	\$13,290	2
33	51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	365	<b>\$10.97</b>	<b>\$22,820</b>	<b>\$14.35</b>	<b>\$29,850</b>	2
34	43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	355	<b>\$8.26</b>	<b>\$17,180</b>	\$11.41	\$23,740	2

**NOTE: Wages in RED are above average**

## Top 100 Occupations - Annual Demand

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage		Job Zone
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual	
35	43-3071	Tellers	350	\$7.49	\$15,580	\$9.50	\$19,750	2
36	49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	340	\$8.53	\$17,730	\$13.47	\$28,020	3
37	33-3012	Correctional Officers and Jailers	330	\$8.41	\$17,480	\$10.54	\$21,920	2
38	35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	330	\$6.02	\$12,510	\$7.59	\$15,790	3
39	51-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production and Operating Workers	330	\$11.51	\$23,950	\$18.18	\$37,820	3
40	37-3011	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	325	\$6.23	\$12,950	\$8.45	\$17,580	1
41	39-3011	Gaming Dealers	325	\$5.97	\$12,420	\$7.31	\$15,200	2
42	33-3051	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	315	\$9.21	\$19,150	\$13.17	\$27,400	3
43	53-3022	Bus Drivers, School	310	\$5.92	\$12,310	\$7.50	\$15,610	2
44	53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	295	\$6.12	\$12,720	\$8.86	\$18,430	1
45	47-2061	Construction Laborers	285	\$7.64	\$15,890	\$9.57	\$19,900	1
46	35-1012	First-Line Supervisors, Food Preparation and Serving Workers	280	\$7.82	\$16,270	\$10.64	\$22,120	3
47	35-2012	Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	275	\$5.99	\$12,450	\$7.46	\$15,520	2
48	47-2111	Electricians	275	\$12.64	\$26,300	\$16.72	\$34,790	3
49	53-3033	Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	275	\$6.86	\$14,280	\$10.78	\$22,410	1
50	13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	255	\$13.44	\$27,970	\$22.78	\$47,370	4
51	11-1011	Chief Executives	250	\$19.82	\$41,230	\$45.88	\$95,430	5
52	43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	240	\$7.66	\$15,930	\$10.47	\$21,770	1
53	53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	235	\$8.60	\$17,890	\$11.03	\$22,940	1
54	43-6011	Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	230	\$10.18	\$21,180	\$14.22	\$29,570	4
55	47-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	230	\$13.55	\$28,180	\$19.46	\$40,470	4
56	23-1011	Lawyers	225	\$15.23	\$31,670	\$36.33	\$75,570	5
57	35-3022	Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, and Coffee Shop	210	\$6.00	\$12,490	\$6.91	\$14,370	1
58	47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	210	\$10.22	\$21,260	\$15.08	\$31,370	3
59	49-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	210	\$13.83	\$28,760	\$21.02	\$43,730	4
60	35-9021	Dishwashers	205	\$6.01	\$12,500	\$6.46	\$13,440	1
61	51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	195	\$6.84	\$14,230	\$10.35	\$21,520	1
62	51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	175	\$8.51	\$17,700	\$13.04	\$27,120	1
63	25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	170	\$6.31	\$13,130	\$9.76	\$20,290	4
64	25-2022	Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	170	\$12.21	\$25,400	\$16.75	\$34,850	4
65	43-4081	Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks	170	\$6.14	\$12,770	\$7.55	\$15,710	2
66	51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	165	\$6.90	\$14,350	\$9.42	\$19,590	1
67	35-9011	Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender Helpers	155	\$6.01	\$12,490	\$6.35	\$13,220	1

**NOTE: Wages in RED are above average**

## Top 100 Occupations - Annual Demand

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage		Job Zone
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual	
68	47-2073	Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	155	\$9.27	\$19,290	\$12.15	\$25,270	3
69	41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	150	\$11.94	\$24,840	\$20.37	\$42,370	3
70	11-3031	Financial Managers	140	\$17.22	\$35,820	\$28.64	\$59,580	5
71	31-9092	Medical Assistants	140	\$7.71	\$16,030	\$9.78	\$20,340	3
72	39-5012	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	140	\$6.53	\$13,570	\$10.24	\$21,310	3
73	51-4031	Cutting, Punching & Press Machine Setters, Operators & Tenders, Metal & Plasti	140	\$8.37	\$17,410	\$11.23	\$23,350	2
74	51-6093	Upholsterers	140	\$9.35	\$19,440	\$13.05	\$27,150	3
75	11-9011	Farm, Ranch, and Other Agricultural Managers	135	\$14.30	\$29,740	\$18.14	\$37,720	4
76	29-1051	Pharmacists	135	\$19.51	\$40,590	\$32.35	\$67,300	4
77	33-2011	Fire Fighters	135	\$10.24	\$21,300	\$13.38	\$27,830	3
78	35-2015	Cooks, Short Order	135	\$6.03	\$12,540	\$6.84	\$14,230	1
79	41-2021	Counter and Rental Clerks	135	\$6.43	\$13,370	\$9.75	\$20,280	1
80	53-7061	Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment	135	\$6.73	\$14,010	\$9.42	\$19,590	1
81	31-9091	Dental Assistants	130	\$8.77	\$18,230	\$12.01	\$24,990	2
82	41-2012	Gaming Change Persons and Booth Cashiers	130	\$7.67	\$15,950	\$9.67	\$20,100	2
83	35-9031	Hosts and Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, and Coffee Shop	125	\$6.01	\$12,500	\$6.75	\$14,050	1
84	53-3031	Driver/Sales Workers	125	\$6.62	\$13,780	\$10.69	\$22,230	1
85	39-9032	Recreation Workers	120	\$6.12	\$12,740	\$8.62	\$17,920	3
86	43-3011	Bill and Account Collectors	120	\$8.67	\$18,030	\$11.11	\$23,110	2
87	43-5052	Postal Service Mail Carriers	120	\$14.38	\$29,910	\$19.40	\$40,340	1
88	11-3011	Administrative Services Managers	115	\$11.79	\$24,510	\$20.75	\$43,160	4
89	11-9021	Construction Managers	110	\$15.43	\$32,090	\$24.96	\$51,920	3
90	11-9051	Food Service Managers	110	\$6.94	\$14,430	\$13.00	\$27,040	4
91	25-2041	Special Education Teachers, Preschool, Kindergarten, and Elementary School	110	\$13.06	\$27,170	\$16.65	\$34,630	4
92	41-1012	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Non-Retail Sales Workers	110	\$11.35	\$23,600	\$23.03	\$47,910	3
93	45-2091	Agricultural Equipment Operators	110	\$6.32	\$13,140	\$9.29	\$19,330	2
94	47-2141	Painters, Construction and Maintenance	110	\$8.94	\$18,600	\$12.16	\$25,300	4
95	49-3031	Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	110	\$9.59	\$19,940	\$13.37	\$27,810	3
96	15-1041	Computer Support Specialists	105	\$8.53	\$17,730	\$13.93	\$28,970	4
97	29-2071	Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	105	\$7.49	\$15,570	\$11.18	\$23,250	3
98	31-1011	Home Health Aides	105	\$6.25	\$13,000	\$8.13	\$16,910	1
99	39-9021	Personal and Home Care Aides	105	\$5.98	\$12,440	\$7.04	\$14,640	2
100	51-4041	Machinists	105	\$11.25	\$23,400	\$14.85	\$30,880	4

**NOTE: Wages in RED are above average**

## Top 100 Occupations - Average Overall Wage

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Overall Wage Hourly	Average Overall Wage Annual	Job Zone
1	29-1063	Internists, General	15	\$84.62	\$176,020	5
2	29-1065	Pediatricians, General	15	\$84.59	\$175,940	5
3	29-1064	Obstetricians & Gynecologists	5	\$82.01	\$170,590	5
4	29-1067	Surgeons	15	\$81.66	\$169,850	5
5	29-1061	Anesthesiologists	5	\$74.59	\$155,140	5
6	29-1066	Psychiatrists	5	\$70.53	\$146,690	5
7	29-1062	Family & General Practitioners	60	\$69.36	\$144,280	5
8	29-1081	Podiatrists	5	\$56.99	\$118,540	5
9	29-1041	Optometrists	10	\$54.01	\$112,340	5
10	11-1011	Chief Executives	250	\$45.88	\$95,430	5
11	17-2171	Petroleum Engineers	5	\$40.41	\$84,060	5
12	11-9041	Engineering Managers	40	\$38.74	\$80,570	5
13	11-9121	Natural Sciences Managers	10	\$38.73	\$80,570	5
14	11-9033	Education Administrators, Postsecondary	70	\$36.35	\$75,610	5
15	23-1011	Lawyers	225	\$36.33	\$75,570	5
16	29-1020	Dentists	30	\$35.95	\$74,780	5
17	17-2061	Computer Hardware Engineers	5	\$35.37	\$73,560	4
18	19-2042	Geoscientists, Except Hydrologists & Geographers	10	\$34.88	\$72,550	5
19	17-2151	Mining & Geological Engineers, Including Mining Safety Engineers	5	\$33.97	\$70,660	4
20	19-2043	Hydrologists	0	\$33.75	\$70,210	5
21	53-2021	Air Traffic Controllers	5	\$33.40	\$69,460	4
22	17-2031	Biomedical Engineers	5	\$33.30	\$69,270	5
23	15-1011	Computer & Information Scientists, Research	0	\$33.30	\$69,260	4
24	17-2072	Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	15	\$33.28	\$69,230	5
25	53-4013	Rail Yard Engineers, Dinkey Operators, & Hostlers	0	\$32.54	\$67,680	2
26	29-1051	Pharmacists	135	\$32.35	\$67,300	4
27	25-1071	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	40	\$32.28	\$67,150	5
28	11-2022	Sales Managers	80	\$32.20	\$66,980	4
29	19-2012	Physicists	5	\$32.08	\$66,720	5
30	19-1021	Biochemists & Biophysicists	0	\$32.00	\$66,570	5
31	11-1021	General & Operations Managers	765	\$31.88	\$66,310	4
32	15-2011	Actuaries	0	\$31.67	\$65,860	5
33	15-1032	Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software	15	\$31.42	\$65,360	4
34	53-2012	Commercial Pilots	15	\$31.21	\$64,910	4

NOTE: Figures in **RED** are above average

## Top 100 Occupations - Average Overall Wage

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Hourly	Overall Wage Annual	Job Zone
35	11-9111	Medical & Health Services Managers	95	\$31.07	\$64,620	5
36	17-2081	Environmental Engineers	25	\$31.01	\$64,500	4
37	11-3051	Industrial Production Managers	70	\$30.87	\$64,200	4
38	17-2051	Civil Engineers	50	\$30.77	\$64,000	4
39	17-2121	Marine Engineers & Naval Architects	15	\$30.41	\$63,250	5
40	17-2041	Chemical Engineers	5	\$30.04	\$62,470	5
41	11-3021	Computer & Information Systems Managers	70	\$30.01	\$62,410	5
42	41-9031	Sales Engineers	5	\$29.93	\$62,260	5
43	19-2021	Atmospheric & Space Scientists	5	\$28.97	\$60,260	4
44	17-2071	Electrical Engineers	20	\$28.94	\$60,190	5
45	11-3031	Financial Managers	140	\$28.64	\$59,580	4
46	53-2011	Airline Pilots, Copilots, & Flight Engineers	10	\$28.37	\$59,000	4
47	23-1021	Administrative Law Judges, Adjudicators, & Hearing Officers	5	\$28.28	\$58,830	5
48	29-1131	Veterinarians	30	\$28.26	\$58,790	5
49	11-2021	Marketing Managers	35	\$28.21	\$58,680	4
50	41-3031	Securities, Commodities, & Financial Services Sales Agents	20	\$28.09	\$58,430	4
51	13-2051	Financial Analysts	10	\$27.93	\$58,100	5
52	11-9071	Gaming Managers	10	\$27.88	\$57,990	3
53	11-9032	Education Administrators, Elementary & Secondary School	100	\$27.73	\$57,670	4
54	53-4011	Locomotive Engineers	10	\$27.61	\$57,420	4
55	17-1012	Landscape Architects	5	\$27.57	\$57,340	4
56	29-1123	Physical Therapists	65	\$27.55	\$57,310	5
57	29-1124	Radiation Therapists	5	\$27.55	\$57,300	4
58	41-4011	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Technical & Scientific Products	95	\$27.39	\$56,970	3
59	25-1053	Environmental Science Teachers, Postsecondary	0	\$27.18	\$56,530	5
60	53-4031	Railroad Conductors & Yardmasters	15	\$27.10	\$56,360	4
61	17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	40	\$26.98	\$56,110	4
62	15-1031	Computer Software Engineers, Applications	50	\$26.50	\$55,110	4
63	25-1063	Economics Teachers, Postsecondary	5	\$26.45	\$55,020	5
64	27-1011	Art Directors	10	\$26.44	\$55,000	4
65	25-1011	Business Teachers, Postsecondary	45	\$26.35	\$54,800	4
66	11-3040	Human Resources Managers	60	\$26.27	\$54,650	4
67	25-1021	Computer Science Teachers, Postsecondary	20	\$26.25	\$54,610	5

NOTE: Figures in RED are above average

## Top 100 Occupations - Average Overall Wage

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Hourly	Overall Wage Annual	Job Zone
68	41-9021	Real Estate Brokers	20	\$26.09	\$54,260	3
69	13-1111	Management Analysts	50	\$25.99	\$54,060	4
70	25-1064	Geography Teachers, Postsecondary	0	\$25.80	\$53,670	4
71	53-4021	Railroad Brake, Signal, & Switch Operators	5	\$25.76	\$53,590	2
72	25-1052	Chemistry Teachers, Postsecondary	15	\$25.66	\$53,380	5
73	25-1054	Physics Teachers, Postsecondary	10	\$25.65	\$53,360	5
74	19-1022	Microbiologists	5	\$25.59	\$53,230	5
75	13-2052	Personal Financial Advisors	15	\$25.57	\$53,180	3
76	29-1011	Chiropractors	10	\$25.38	\$52,800	5
77	19-1010	Agricultural & Food Scientists	5	\$25.35	\$52,730	4
78	15-1051	Computer Systems Analysts	75	\$25.28	\$52,590	3
79	17-2021	Agricultural Engineers	0	\$25.21	\$52,430	4
80	19-1023	Zoologists & Wildlife Biologists	15	\$25.20	\$52,420	5
81	25-1031	Architecture Teachers, Postsecondary	5	\$25.20	\$52,410	5
82	11-3061	Purchasing Managers	30	\$25.07	\$52,150	4
83	25-1065	Political Science Teachers, Postsecondary	10	\$25.03	\$52,060	5
84	29-1122	Occupational Therapists	35	\$25.02	\$52,050	4
85	11-9021	Construction Managers	110	\$24.96	\$51,920	4
86	13-2041	Credit Analysts	15	\$24.91	\$51,810	4
87	11-9131	Postmasters & Mail Superintendents	10	\$24.83	\$51,650	4
88	25-1051	Atmospheric, Earth, Marine, & Space Sciences Teachers, Postsecondary	5	\$24.57	\$51,110	5
89	15-2031	Operations Research Analysts	5	\$24.45	\$50,860	4
90	11-3071	Transportation, Storage, & Distribution Managers	40	\$24.29	\$50,530	4
91	17-2131	Materials Engineers	5	\$24.18	\$50,290	5
92	17-2111	Health & Safety Engineers, Except Mining Safety Engineers & Inspectors	10	\$24.08	\$50,090	4
93	17-2112	Industrial Engineers	50	\$23.96	\$49,850	4
94	53-5021	Captains, Mates, & Pilots of Water Vessels	15	\$23.79	\$49,470	4
95	13-2061	Financial Examiners	5	\$23.65	\$49,180	4
96	29-2033	Nuclear Medicine Technologists	5	\$23.64	\$49,180	3
97	19-2031	Chemists	10	\$23.63	\$49,160	4
98	25-1111	Criminal Justice & Law Enforcement Teachers, Postsecondary	5	\$23.62	\$49,130	5
99	13-1023	Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, & Farm Products	80	\$23.45	\$48,770	3
100	11-2011	Advertising & Promotions Managers	30	\$23.44	\$48,750	4

NOTE: Figures in RED are above average

## Top 100 Occupations - Average Starting Wage\*

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Job Zone
				Hourly	Annual	
1	29-1061	Anesthesiologists	5	\$43.19	\$89,840	5
2	29-1066	Psychiatrists	5	\$43.13	\$89,710	5
3	29-1062	Family and General Practitioners	60	\$38.91	\$80,940	5
4	29-1081	Podiatrists	5	\$38.81	\$80,720	5
5	53-2021	Air Traffic Controllers	5	\$28.44	\$59,150	4
6	17-2171	Petroleum Engineers	5	\$27.96	\$58,150	5
7	11-9041	Engineering Managers	40	\$27.86	\$57,950	5
8	11-9121	Natural Sciences Managers	10	\$27.20	\$56,580	5
9	17-2061	Computer Hardware Engineers	5	\$26.85	\$55,840	4
10	29-1041	Optometrists	10	\$26.45	\$55,020	5
11	19-2043	Hydrologists	0	\$26.33	\$54,760	5
12	15-2011	Actuaries	0	\$24.97	\$51,940	5
13	15-1011	Computer and Information Scientists, Research	0	\$24.82	\$51,620	5
14	17-2151	Mining and Geological Engineers, Including Mining Safety Engineers	5	\$24.77	\$51,530	4
15	17-2031	Biomedical Engineers	5	\$24.21	\$50,370	5
16	19-2042	Geoscientists, Except Hydrologists and Geographers	10	\$23.90	\$49,720	5
17	17-2121	Marine Engineers and Naval Architects	15	\$23.46	\$48,800	5
18	17-2072	Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	15	\$22.50	\$46,810	5
19	19-1021	Biochemists and Biophysicists	0	\$22.31	\$46,410	5
20	29-1124	Radiation Therapists	5	\$22.14	\$46,040	4
21	11-9032	Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	100	\$21.95	\$45,660	4
22	11-9033	Education Administrators, Postsecondary	70	\$21.37	\$44,450	5
23	17-2081	Environmental Engineers	25	\$20.96	\$43,590	4
24	11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	95	\$20.66	\$42,970	5
25	15-1032	Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software	15	\$20.40	\$42,430	4
26	11-9131	Postmasters and Mail Superintendents	10	\$20.35	\$42,330	4
27	17-2051	Civil Engineers	50	\$20.30	\$42,230	4
28	19-2012	Physicists	5	\$20.17	\$41,950	5
29	17-2041	Chemical Engineers	5	\$19.99	\$41,580	5
30	17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	40	\$19.94	\$41,470	4
31	11-1011	Chief Executives	250	\$19.82	\$41,230	5
32	29-2033	Nuclear Medicine Technologists	5	\$19.70	\$40,990	3
33	19-2021	Atmospheric and Space Scientists	5	\$19.68	\$40,930	4
34	29-1051	Pharmacists	135	\$19.51	\$40,590	4

NOTE: Figures in RED are above average

## Top 100 Occupations - Average Starting Wage\*

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Job Zone
				Hourly	Annual	
35	25-1031	Architecture Teachers, Postsecondary	5	\$19.49	\$40,540	5
36	17-2071	Electrical Engineers	20	\$19.45	\$40,450	5
37	53-4013	Rail Yard Engineers, Dinkey Operators, and Hostlers	0	\$18.93	\$39,360	2
38	11-3051	Industrial Production Managers	70	\$18.86	\$39,220	4
39	25-1054	Physics Teachers, Postsecondary	10	\$18.70	\$38,900	5
40	25-1062	Area, Ethnic, and Cultural Studies Teachers, Postsecondary	5	\$18.63	\$38,750	5
41	49-2091	Avionics Technicians	5	\$18.60	\$38,690	4
42	43-5051	Postal Service Clerks	25	\$18.54	\$38,570	2
43	17-2021	Agricultural Engineers	0	\$18.50	\$38,470	4
44	11-3021	Computer and Information Systems Managers	70	\$18.47	\$38,420	5
45	29-1020	Dentists	30	\$18.41	\$38,300	5
46	49-2095	Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Powerhouse, Substation, and Relay	10	\$18.28	\$38,020	5
47	15-1031	Computer Software Engineers, Applications	50	\$18.23	\$37,910	4
48	17-2112	Industrial Engineers	50	\$18.07	\$37,580	4
49	25-1065	Political Science Teachers, Postsecondary	10	\$18.03	\$37,500	5
50	49-9097	Signal and Track Switch Repairers	10	\$17.94	\$37,320	4
51	53-7073	Wellhead Pumpers	0	\$17.77	\$36,950	2
52	13-1111	Management Analysts	50	\$17.70	\$36,810	4
53	11-3040	Human Resources Managers	60	\$17.63	\$36,670	4
54	25-1071	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	40	\$17.61	\$36,620	5
55	29-1123	Physical Therapists	65	\$17.59	\$36,590	5
56	29-1122	Occupational Therapists	35	\$17.56	\$36,530	4
57	53-4011	Locomotive Engineers	10	\$17.41	\$36,220	4
58	19-1022	Microbiologists	5	\$17.39	\$36,180	5
59	29-1121	Audiologists	5	\$17.35	\$36,090	4
60	11-2022	Sales Managers	80	\$17.32	\$36,030	4
61	15-1051	Computer Systems Analysts	75	\$17.32	\$36,020	3
62	11-3031	Financial Managers	140	\$17.22	\$35,820	4
63	53-2012	Commercial Pilots	15	\$17.13	\$35,630	4
64	13-2051	Financial Analysts	10	\$17.09	\$35,540	5
65	25-1052	Chemistry Teachers, Postsecondary	15	\$17.03	\$35,420	5
66	53-2011	Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers	10	\$16.98	\$35,310	4
67	17-1012	Landscape Architects	5	\$16.85	\$35,040	4

NOTE: Figures in RED are above average

## Top 100 Occupations - Average Starting Wage\*

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Job Zone
				Hourly	Annual	
68	13-1032	Insurance Appraisers, Auto Damage	0	\$16.76	\$34,860	4
69	25-1021	Computer Science Teachers, Postsecondary	20	\$16.76	\$34,860	5
70	25-1053	Environmental Science Teachers, Postsecondary	0	\$16.73	\$34,790	5
71	25-1192	Home Economics Teachers, Postsecondary	0	\$16.71	\$34,750	5
72	53-4031	Railroad Conductors and Yardmasters	15	\$16.66	\$34,660	4
73	25-1113	Social Work Teachers, Postsecondary	5	\$16.65	\$34,640	5
74	15-1081	Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	30	\$16.65	\$34,630	3
75	25-1072	Nursing Instructors and Teachers, Postsecondary	25	\$16.60	\$34,520	5
76	51-4062	Patternmakers, Metal and Plastic	0	\$16.51	\$34,350	4
77	41-9031	Sales Engineers	5	\$16.48	\$34,270	5
78	51-8092	Gas Plant Operators	5	\$16.40	\$34,120	3
79	11-9071	Gaming Managers	10	\$16.38	\$34,070	3
80	29-1111	Registered Nurses	1,360	\$16.18	\$33,660	4
81	17-2111	Health and Safety Engineers, Except Mining Safety Engineers and Inspectors	10	\$16.14	\$33,580	4
82	25-1022	Mathematical Science Teachers, Postsecondary	30	\$16.06	\$33,410	5
83	51-8091	Chemical Plant and System Operators	25	\$16.01	\$33,310	2
84	25-1081	Education Teachers, Postsecondary	25	\$16.00	\$33,270	5
85	25-1051	Atmospheric, Earth, Marine, and Space Sciences Teachers, Postsecondary	5	\$15.93	\$33,140	5
86	53-7071	Gas Compressor and Gas Pumping Station Operators	5	\$15.92	\$33,120	3
87	49-2093	Electrical and Electronics Installers and Repairers, Transportation Equipment	20	\$15.89	\$33,050	3
88	17-3024	Electro-Mechanical Technicians	5	\$15.88	\$33,020	4
89	13-2031	Budget Analysts	10	\$15.72	\$32,710	4
90	19-1023	Zoologists and Wildlife Biologists	15	\$15.66	\$32,570	5
91	17-2131	Materials Engineers	5	\$15.65	\$32,550	5
92	25-1125	History Teachers, Postsecondary	20	\$15.64	\$32,530	5
93	29-1127	Speech-Language Pathologists	55	\$15.59	\$32,430	5
94	27-1011	Art Directors	10	\$15.54	\$32,330	4
95	53-4021	Railroad Brake, Signal, and Switch Operators	5	\$15.53	\$32,310	2
96	11-9021	Construction Managers	110	\$15.43	\$32,090	4
97	15-1021	Computer Programmers	55	\$15.39	\$32,010	4
98	25-1066	Psychology Teachers, Postsecondary	15	\$15.39	\$32,010	5
99	25-1063	Economics Teachers, Postsecondary	5	\$15.38	\$32,000	5
100	41-3031	Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	20	\$15.36	\$31,950	4

**NOTE: Figures in RED are above average**

\* Occupations for which starting wages were unavailable are excluded from this list

# About Job Zones

**Job Zones** are utilized by the Occupational Information Network (O\*Net) system to ascertain the level of training and/or preparation required for each occupational title. A brief description of requirements for each of the five Job Zones follows:

## **Job Zone One: Little or No Preparation Needed**

No previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed for these occupations. Employees in these occupations need anywhere from a few days to a few months of training. These occupations involve following instructions and helping others. These occupations may require a high school diploma, GED or a formal training course to obtain a license.

## **Job Zone Two: Some Preparation Needed**

Some previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience may be helpful in these occupations, but usually is not needed. Employees in these occupations need anywhere from a few months to one year of working with experienced employees. These occupations often involve using your knowledge and skills to help others. These occupations often require a high school diploma and may require some vocational training or job-related courses.

## **Job Zone Three: Medium Preparation Needed**

Previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is required for these occupations. Employees in these occupations usually need one or two years of informal training delivered by experienced workers. These occupations often involve using communication and organizational skills to coordinate, supervise, manage, or train others. Most occupations in this zone require training in vocational schools, related on-the-job experience, or an associate's degree.

## **Job Zone Four: Considerable Preparation Needed**

A minimum of two to four years of work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed for these occupations. Employees in these occupations usually need several years of experience, on-the-job training, and/or formal training. Most of these occupations involve coordinating, supervising, managing, or training others. Many of these occupations require a bachelor's degree, but some do not.

## **Job Zone Five: Extensive Preparation Needed**

Extensive skill, knowledge, and experience are needed for these occupations. Many require more than five years of experience. Most employees in these occupations will already have the required skills, knowledge, work-related experience, and/or training. These occupations often involve coordinating, training, supervising, or managing the activities of others to accomplish goals. A bachelor's degree is the usual minimum formal education required for these occupations, but a significant number of them require post graduate studies and/or advanced degrees.

## Top 20 Occupations - Annual Demand

### Job Zone One

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage	
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual
1	41-2011	Cashiers	2,565	\$6.04	\$12,560	\$7.04	\$14,640
2	35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,005	\$5.97	\$12,410	\$6.39	\$13,290
3	53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	905	\$6.45	\$13,420	\$9.30	\$19,340
4	35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	820	\$5.98	\$12,440	\$6.66	\$13,860
5	35-2021	Food Preparation Workers	720	\$5.96	\$12,400	\$6.59	\$13,700
6	37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	655	\$6.05	\$12,580	\$7.88	\$16,390
7	51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	540	\$6.65	\$13,820	\$8.21	\$17,080
8	45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	535	\$5.92	\$12,320	\$6.71	\$13,950
9	37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	505	\$6.04	\$12,570	\$7.00	\$14,570
10	33-9032	Security Guards	475	\$6.08	\$12,650	\$8.11	\$16,880
11	51-2092	Team Assemblers	430	\$7.48	\$15,550	\$10.89	\$22,660
12	39-9011	Child Care Workers	410	\$6.01	\$12,510	\$6.88	\$14,320
13	37-3011	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	325	\$6.23	\$12,950	\$8.45	\$17,580
14	53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	295	\$6.12	\$12,720	\$8.86	\$18,430
15	47-2061	Construction Laborers	285	\$7.64	\$15,890	\$9.57	\$19,900
16	53-3033	Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	275	\$6.86	\$14,280	\$10.78	\$22,410
17	43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	240	\$7.66	\$15,930	\$10.47	\$21,770
18	53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	235	\$8.60	\$17,890	\$11.03	\$22,940
19	35-3022	Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, and Coffee Shop	210	\$6.00	\$12,490	\$6.91	\$14,370
20	35-9021	Dishwashers	205	\$6.01	\$12,500	\$6.46	\$13,440

**NOTE: Wages in RED are above average**

## Top 20 Occupations - Annual Demand

### Job Zone Two

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage	
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual
1	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,210	\$6.13	\$12,750	\$9.55	\$19,860
2	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	770	\$9.73	\$20,240	\$14.85	\$30,900
3	31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	685	\$6.16	\$12,820	\$7.72	\$16,060
4	43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	665	\$6.23	\$12,960	\$9.00	\$18,710
5	41-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	590	\$8.66	\$18,020	\$13.48	\$28,030
6	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	515	\$6.87	\$14,290	\$9.67	\$20,120
7	41-4012	Sales Reps, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Not Tech. & Scientific Products	505	\$11.52	\$23,960	\$19.26	\$40,060
8	43-6014	Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	445	\$7.21	\$14,990	\$10.31	\$21,450
9	43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	435	\$6.83	\$14,200	\$8.97	\$18,650
10	35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food	365	\$5.93	\$12,340	\$6.39	\$13,290
11	51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	365	\$10.97	\$22,820	\$14.35	\$29,850
12	43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	355	\$8.26	\$17,180	\$11.41	\$23,740
13	43-3071	Tellers	350	\$7.49	\$15,580	\$9.50	\$19,750
14	33-3012	Correctional Officers and Jailers	330	\$8.41	\$17,480	\$10.54	\$21,920
15	39-3011	Gaming Dealers	325	\$5.97	\$12,420	\$7.31	\$15,200
16	53-3022	Bus Drivers, School	310	\$5.92	\$12,310	\$7.50	\$15,610
17	35-2012	Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	275	\$5.99	\$12,450	\$7.46	\$15,520
18	43-4081	Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks	170	\$6.14	\$12,770	\$7.55	\$15,710
19	51-4031	Cutting, Punching & Press Machine Operators & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	140	\$8.37	\$17,410	\$11.23	\$23,350
20	31-9091	Dental Assistants	130	\$8.77	\$18,230	\$12.01	\$24,990

**NOTE: Wages in RED are above average**

## Top 20 Occupations - Annual Demand

### Job Zone Three

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage	
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual
1	25-9041	Teacher Assistants	560	\$5.99	\$12,450	\$6.91	\$14,380
2	49-9042	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	530	\$8.08	\$16,810	\$12.91	\$26,840
3	43-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers, Office and Administrative Support Workers	455	\$10.84	\$22,540	\$16.78	\$34,900
4	43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	440	\$8.58	\$17,850	\$12.03	\$25,030
5	29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	395	\$9.95	\$20,700	\$12.54	\$26,070
6	47-2031	Carpenters	395	\$9.06	\$18,840	\$12.67	\$26,350
7	49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	340	\$8.53	\$17,730	\$13.47	\$28,020
8	35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	330	\$6.02	\$12,510	\$7.59	\$15,790
9	51-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production and Operating Workers	330	\$11.51	\$23,950	\$18.18	\$37,820
10	33-3051	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	315	\$9.21	\$19,150	\$13.17	\$27,400
11	35-1012	First-Line Supervisors, Food Preparation and Serving Workers	280	\$7.82	\$16,270	\$10.64	\$22,120
12	47-2111	Electricians	275	\$12.64	\$26,300	\$16.72	\$34,790
13	47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	210	\$10.22	\$21,260	\$15.08	\$31,370
14	47-2073	Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	155	\$9.27	\$19,290	\$12.15	\$25,270
15	41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	150	\$11.94	\$24,840	\$20.37	\$42,370
16	31-9092	Medical Assistants	140	\$7.71	\$16,030	\$9.78	\$20,340
17	39-5012	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	140	\$6.53	\$13,570	\$10.24	\$21,310
18	51-6093	Upholsterers	140	\$9.35	\$19,440	\$13.05	\$27,150
19	11-9011	Farm, Ranch, and Other Agricultural Managers	135	\$14.30	\$29,740	\$18.14	\$37,720
20	33-2011	Fire Fighters	135	\$10.24	\$21,300	\$13.38	\$27,830

**NOTE: Wages in RED are above average**

## Top 20 Occupations - Annual Demand

### Job Zone Four

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage	
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual
1	29-1111	Registered Nurses	1,360	\$16.18	\$33,660	\$21.92	\$45,590
2	11-1021	General and Operations Managers	765	\$15.05	\$31,300	\$31.88	\$66,310
3	25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	520	\$11.84	\$24,620	\$16.44	\$34,200
4	25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	470	\$12.48	\$25,960	\$16.92	\$35,200
5	13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	255	\$13.44	\$27,970	\$22.78	\$47,370
6	43-6011	Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	230	\$10.18	\$21,180	\$14.22	\$29,570
7	47-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	230	\$13.55	\$28,180	\$19.46	\$40,470
8	49-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	210	\$13.83	\$28,760	\$21.02	\$43,730
9	25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	170	\$6.31	\$13,130	\$9.76	\$20,290
10	25-2022	Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	170	\$12.21	\$25,400	\$16.75	\$34,850
11	11-9011	Farm, Ranch, and Other Agricultural Managers	135	\$14.30	\$29,740	\$18.14	\$37,720
12	29-1051	Pharmacists	135	\$19.51	\$40,590	\$32.35	\$67,300
13	11-3011	Administrative Services Managers	115	\$11.79	\$24,510	\$20.75	\$43,160
14	11-9051	Food Service Managers	110	\$6.94	\$14,430	\$13.00	\$27,040
15	25-2041	Special Education Teachers, Preschool, Kindergarten, and Elementary School	110	\$13.06	\$27,170	\$16.65	\$34,630
16	47-2141	Painters, Construction and Maintenance	110	\$8.94	\$18,600	\$12.16	\$25,300
17	15-1041	Computer Support Specialists	105	\$8.53	\$17,730	\$13.93	\$28,970
18	51-4041	Machinists	105	\$11.25	\$23,400	\$14.85	\$30,880
19	11-9032	Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	100	\$21.95	\$45,660	\$27.73	\$57,670
20	13-1073	Training and Development Specialists	95	\$13.45	\$27,970	\$19.77	\$41,120

**NOTE: Wages in RED are above average**

## Top 20 Occupations - Annual Demand

### Job Zone Five

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage	
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual
1	11-1011	Chief Executives	250	\$19.82	\$41,230	\$45.88	\$95,430
2	23-1011	Lawyers	225	\$15.23	\$31,670	\$36.33	\$75,570
3	11-3031	Financial Managers	140	\$17.22	\$35,820	\$28.64	\$59,580
4	11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	95	\$20.66	\$42,970	\$31.07	\$64,620
5	21-1021	Child, Family, and School Social Workers	80	\$11.15	\$23,200	\$14.30	\$29,750
6	11-3021	Computer and Information Systems Managers	70	\$18.47	\$38,420	\$30.01	\$62,410
7	11-9033	Education Administrators, Postsecondary	70	\$21.37	\$44,450	\$36.35	\$75,610
8	29-1123	Physical Therapists	65	\$17.59	\$36,590	\$27.55	\$57,310
9	25-4021	Librarians	60	\$9.02	\$18,770	\$16.14	\$33,580
10	29-1062	Family and General Practitioners	60	\$38.91	\$80,940	\$69.36	\$144,280
11	29-1127	Speech-Language Pathologists	55	\$15.59	\$32,430	\$21.50	\$44,710
12	21-1022	Medical and Public Health Social Workers	45	\$10.44	\$21,710	\$15.82	\$32,900
13	25-1011	Business Teachers, Postsecondary	45	\$14.64	\$30,450	\$26.35	\$54,800
14	11-9041	Engineering Managers	40	\$27.86	\$57,950	\$38.74	\$80,570
15	25-1071	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	40	\$17.61	\$36,620	\$32.28	\$67,150
16	25-1121	Art, Drama, and Music Teachers, Postsecondary	40	\$13.96	\$29,040	\$21.16	\$44,010
17	25-9031	Instructional Coordinators	35	\$13.27	\$27,610	\$19.91	\$41,420
18	27-2022	Coaches and Scouts	35	\$11.10	\$23,090	\$22.10	\$45,970
19	25-1022	Mathematical Science Teachers, Postsecondary	30	\$16.06	\$33,410	\$23.17	\$48,190
20	29-1020	Dentists	30	\$18.41	\$38,300	\$35.95	\$74,780

**NOTE:** Wages in **RED** are above average

## Determining the “*Hottest*” Occupations

A variety of methods could have been used to ascertain which occupations might prove to be the most attractive to students and other job seekers. For purposes of this publication, a fairly simple method of indexing desirability was utilized. Assuming that any person seeking work in a particular occupation would want to ensure that there was at least moderate demand for workers in that field and that it should pay a reasonable wage, LMI staff devised a method of indexing these factors. It was determined that the average annual demand for workers among all occupational titles was approximately 80 persons per year. The average annual salary for all surveyed occupations was found to be approximately \$27,770. For starting wages the mean was determined to be about \$14,240. As a first step, any occupation with below average demand or not paying average or above wages was eliminated. To arrive at the “Hot Factor” used for ranking the remaining occupations, the annual demand for that occupation was divided by the overall average of 80. Then the annual overall wage for each occupation was divided by the average of \$27,770 and the starting wage was divided by \$14,240. The three “indexes” derived from these calculations were then added together to obtain the “Hot Factor”. For example, if a certain occupation had an annual demand of 100 persons, the first “index” would be 100 divided by 80, or 1.25. If that same occupation had an annual salary of \$37,500, the second “index” would be \$37,500 divided by \$27,770 or 1.35. If the starting wage was \$20,500, then dividing \$20,500 by \$14,240 would yield 1.44. Adding the three “indexes” together would produce a “Hot Factor” of 4.04 which would have placed it among this year’s hottest occupations. Generally speaking, any occupation with above average demand and above average wages would be a candidate for inclusion in our list. Higher wages might offset lower demand or vice versa, but the end result should still yield a reasonable approximation of the most desirable occupations.

## The 50 *"Hottest"* Jobs

SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage	Average Annual Wage	"Hot" Factor
1	29-1111 Registered Nurses	1,360	\$33,660	\$45,590	21.01
2	11-1021 General and Operations Managers	765	\$31,300	\$66,310	14.15
3	53-3032 Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	770	\$20,240	\$30,900	12.16
4	41-1011 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	590	\$18,020	\$28,030	9.65
5	25-2021 Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	520	\$24,620	\$34,200	9.46
6	11-1011 Chief Executives	250	\$41,230	\$95,430	9.46
7	41-4012 Sales Reps, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Not Tech. & Scientific Products	505	\$23,960	\$40,060	9.44
8	25-2031 Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	470	\$25,960	\$35,200	8.97
9	43-1011 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Office and Administrative Support Workers	455	\$22,540	\$34,900	8.53
10	23-1011 Lawyers	225	\$31,670	\$75,570	7.76
11	51-4121 Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	365	\$22,820	\$29,850	7.24
12	51-1011 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production and Operating Workers	330	\$23,950	\$37,820	7.17
13	29-1051 Pharmacists	135	\$40,590	\$67,300	6.96
14	13-2011 Accountants and Auditors	255	\$27,970	\$47,370	6.86
15	47-2111 Electricians	275	\$26,300	\$34,790	6.54
16	11-9032 Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	100	\$45,660	\$57,670	6.53
17	11-9111 Medical and Health Services Managers	95	\$42,970	\$64,620	6.53
18	49-3023 Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	340	\$17,730	\$28,020	6.50
19	11-3031 Financial Managers	140	\$35,820	\$59,580	6.41
20	47-1011 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	230	\$28,180	\$40,470	6.31
21	49-1011 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	210	\$28,760	\$43,730	6.22
22	11-2022 Sales Managers	80	\$36,030	\$66,980	5.94
23	11-9021 Construction Managers	110	\$32,090	\$51,920	5.50
24	43-6011 Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	230	\$21,180	\$29,570	5.43
25	15-1051 Computer Systems Analysts	75	\$36,020	\$52,590	5.36

## The 50 *"Hottest"* Jobs

SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage	Average Annual Wage	"Hot" Factor
26	47-2152 Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	210	\$21,260	\$31,370	5.25
27	25-2022 Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	170	\$25,400	\$34,850	5.16
28	41-3021 Insurance Sales Agents	150	\$24,840	\$42,370	5.15
29	11-9011 Farm, Ranch, and Other Agricultural Managers	135	\$29,740	\$37,720	5.14
30	41-4011 Sales Reps, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Technical & Scientific Products	95	\$26,460	\$56,970	5.10
31	43-5052 Postal Service Mail Carriers	120	\$29,910	\$40,340	5.05
32	41-1012 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Non-Retail Sales Workers	110	\$23,600	\$47,910	4.76
33	11-3011 Administrative Services Managers	115	\$24,510	\$43,160	4.71
34	13-1073 Training and Development Specialists	95	\$27,970	\$41,120	4.63
35	13-1023 Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, and Farm Products	80	\$26,070	\$48,770	4.59
36	29-2011 Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	95	\$28,110	\$39,170	4.57
37	25-2041 Special Education Teachers, Preschool, Kindergarten, and Elementary School	110	\$27,170	\$34,630	4.53
38	29-1126 Respiratory Therapists	80	\$29,230	\$36,180	4.36
39	49-9051 Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	90	\$26,800	\$37,230	4.35
40	13-2072 Loan Officers	100	\$22,330	\$39,530	4.24
41	25-1194 Vocational Education Teachers, Postsecondary	95	\$23,870	\$37,470	4.21
42	33-2011 Fire Fighters	135	\$21,300	\$27,830	4.19
43	29-2034 Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	80	\$25,790	\$35,300	4.08
44	51-4041 Machinists	105	\$23,400	\$30,880	4.07
45	49-9041 Industrial Machinery Mechanics	75	\$25,290	\$36,870	4.04
46	43-5061 Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	100	\$21,550	\$32,900	3.95
47	25-2043 Special Education Teachers, Secondary School	75	\$25,590	\$33,400	3.94
48	25-2012 Kindergarten Teachers, Except Special Education	90	\$23,720	\$31,350	3.92
49	53-1031 First-Line Supervisors, Transportation/ Material-Moving Machine/Vehicle Operators	75	\$23,260	\$37,210	3.91
50	43-6012 Legal Secretaries	85	\$23,710	\$31,170	3.85

## Exploring Occupations Further

Although the focus of this publication is on those occupations most in demand, the LMI Department has data available on literally hundreds of other job titles. Visiting our website at <http://mdes.ms.gov> will open the doorway to a myriad of other information about occupational trends across the state and substate regions. In addition, the U.S. Department of Labor has developed a system for occupational exploration known as the Occupational Information Network, or **O\*Net** for short. This system is free to all users with internet access, requires no special software and is very user friendly. It can be accessed online at <http://online.onetcenter.org>. The **O\*Net** system is an innovative tool for finding out all sorts of pertinent information about a particular occupation. Users can find a wealth of information about skills required to succeed in a particular occupation, common tasks performed, and working environments. The system utilizes the same SOC code found in this document, but it also uses keywords and partial job titles to help people select an occupational field of interest. **O\*Net** will even provide a list of related occupations for any job title chosen, so as to expose the user to a broader range of possibilities. Used in conjunction with this publication, **O\*Net** should become an invaluable tool for those involved in guidance counseling, or for anyone desiring to expand their knowledge of occupational information. Any questions about **O\*Net** or anything else contained in this document should be directed to the LMI Department of the Mississippi Department of Employment Security.

**E-mail: [LMI-Info@mdes.ms.gov](mailto:LMI-Info@mdes.ms.gov)**

**Phone: 601-321-6249**